

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Mitsunori Nakatani et al.)	Allowed: 11/24/10
Application No.: 10/591,145)	Group Art Unit: 1795
Filed: August 30, 2006)	Examiner: Jayne L. Mershon
For: PRINTING MASK AND SOLAR CELL)	Confirmation No.: 6140

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following remarks are in response to the Notice of Allowance mailed November 24, 2010.

REMARKS

Applicants first wish to thank Mershon for the allowance of claims 12-14 and 16. However, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's Statement for Reasons for Allowance. Applicants' independent claim 12 recites a printing mask comprising a mask frame and a mesh extended on the mask frame, wherein the printing mask includes a first resin layer that is formed inside the mesh, wherein a thickness of the first resin layer is equivalent to a thickness of the mesh; a second resin layer that is formed directly on a surface of the first resin layer, wherein thickness of the second resin layer is 3 micrometers or less; a pattern forming portion in which the second resin layer is not formed, wherein the pattern forming portion is located in a region corresponding to an electrode pattern to be formed on a printing object; a mask portion in which the first resin layer and the second resin layer are formed, wherein the mask portion is located in a region other than the region of the pattern forming portion; and a peripheral portion in which the first resin layer is formed, but the second resin layer is not formed, wherein the peripheral

portion is located within the pattern forming portion and along a periphery of the pattern forming portion.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the November 24, 2010 Notice of Allowability should not be interpreted as narrowing the scope of independent claim 12 to include any limitations of claim 12 that are not explicitly recited therein.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 3, 2011

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